

Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) Monitoring Network New York – 2017

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Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) who collaborated on the SWD monitoring network:

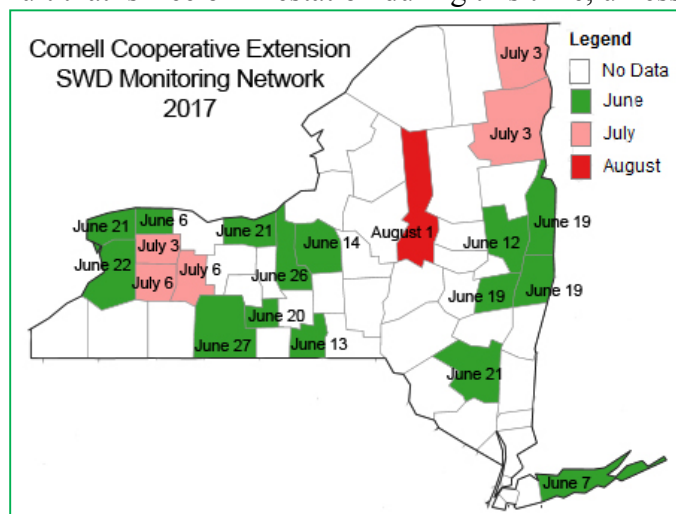
- Amy Ivy, CCE Eastern NY Horticulture Program (Clinton and Essex County traps)
- Bernie Armata, CCE Association of Herkimer County (Herkimer County traps)
- Dave Thorp and Jennifer Damon, CCE Association of Livingston County (Livingston County traps)
- Don Gasiewicz, CCE Association of Wyoming County (Wyoming County traps)
- Faruque Zaman, CCE Association of Suffolk County (Suffolk County traps)
- Janice Beglinger, CCE Association of Genesee County (Genesee County traps)
- Jim O'Connell, CCE Association of Ulster County (Ulster County traps)
- Juliet Carroll, Nicole Mattoon and Taylere Herrmann, CCE NYS IPM Program (Cayuga, Onondaga, Schuyler and Wayne County traps)
- Laura McDermott and Annie Mills, CCE Eastern NY Horticulture Program (Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Washington County traps)
- Margaret Ball, CCE Association of Tioga County (Tioga County traps)
- Sharon Bachman, CCE Association of Erie County (Erie County traps)
- Stephanie Mehlenbacher, CCE Association of Steuben County (Steuben County traps)
- Tess Grasswitz, CCE Lake Ontario Fruit Program (Niagara and Orleans traps)

Spotted wing Drosophila (SWD) arrived early with most sites reporting continuous trap catch from the first trap catch date forward. As of August 7, 2017, all of the 32 SWD trapping sites had caught SWD in the 21 counties in New York where traps were deployed. This contrasts previous years in which first trap catch might be followed by a week or more of zero SWD trap catch. Also, in prior years there were often sites in which first trap catch was in late August or early September. To prevent fruit infestation this year, susceptible fruit crops had to be protected with an insecticide spray program or have exclusion netting in place.

By August 10, on average, 200 SWD per trap were being caught in an unsprayed fall raspberry research planting. Healthy-appearing raspberries sampled from this planting had, on average, 8 larvae per fruit as found via salt flotation. Each collected fruit yielded a range of 0-8 eggs. These data provide evidence that high pressure from SWD builds during late summer, making it impossible to harvest susceptible fruit that is free of infestation during this time, unless an insecticide program or exclusion netting is in place.

Reports came in from growers stunned by the level of damage that SWD can cause to their crops, especially blueberries and raspberries. Many U-pick blueberry plantings were closed early. In early August, reports of tart cherry loads being rejected at the processor due to worms and mold underlined that SWD had found its mark in cherries. Tons of tart cherries were dumped on the ground.

Information about SWD was posted on [Cornell Fruit Resources SWD pages](#) and on the [SWD blog](#). The situation



Dates first trap catch of SWD occurred in the monitoring network. Most occurred in June and early July. Only one later, on August 1.

in tart cherry and blueberry necessitated developing resources for how to treat dumped and fallen fruit on the ground to minimize infestation of susceptible fruit awaiting ripening and harvest. Carroll wrote and posted a quick guide to [SWD insecticides for treating cull piles and dropped fruit](#).

Because of the situation in tart cherry, we conducted an intensive sampling program in peaches at a farm in Williamson, NY near Lake Ontario. Twelve peach varieties were sampled and the sampled fruit checked with salt floatation and in SWD rearing containers. Fruit from four varieties yielded SWD in either salt floatation, rearing, or both. Although infested fruit was found, the numbers of SWD found were low, 11 adults reared out of 120 fruit sampled and 3 eggs found with salt floatation out of 480 fruit sampled. The spray program the grower was using will be compared with the infestation data.